GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3980
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2000
PRODUCTION OF FERTILIZER THROUGH LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of fertilizer is dependent on the Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) as a feedstock;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have anticipated a shortage of a Natural Gas supply to the fertilizer sector in the near future;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and its impact on the domestic production of fertilizers;

(e) whether any alternative arrangements of feedstock have been made; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

(a) & (b): At present fertilizer production is not based on LNG.

(c) to (f): The Hydro Carbon Vision 2025 prepared by the Ministry of Petroleum and NaturalGas stipulates that the demand for natural gas will increase from 110 million standard cubic meters per day in 1999-2000 to 313 million standard cubic meters per day in 2011-2012. As against this requirement, the present domestic gas supply is 65 cubic standard cubic meters per day. Gas based fertilizer plants are equipped with dual fuel / feedstock facility to face the eventuality of any shortfall in the supply of gas.
To address to the issue relating to possible decline in the supply of natural gas in the coming years, Government have directed the core group of fertilizer sector companies to prepare a detailed feasibility report for setting up of an integrated chain of LNG supply in the country. Further, Department of Fertilizers has also constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship ofSecretary (Fertilizers) to explore the feasibility of adopting coal based technology for the manufacture of fertilizers.